

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A method of patterning magnetic material comprising:

- (a) preparing a ferromagnetic material layer containing at least one element selected from the group consisting of Fe, Co and Ni;
- (b) masking a surface of the ferromagnetic material layer selectively; and
- (c) making nonferromagnetic comprising:
 - exposing an exposed portion of the surface of the ferromagnetic material layer in halogen-containing active reaction gas or reaction liquid,
 - converting the exposed portion and a lower layer thereof into a compound with a component in the reaction gas or the reaction liquid by chemical reaction; and
 - making the compound nonferromagnetic.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the halogen is fluorine.

Claim 3 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the compound is a cobalt fluoride.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the halogen-containing active reaction gas is generated by a plasma generating apparatus.

Claim 5 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the masking and the making nonferromagnetic steps write servo information for controlling at least one of a position and a speed on the ferromagnetic material layer, the position and the speed are relative to a magnetic head.

Claim 6 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the masking step comprises:
forming a block copolymer layer composed of a plurality of island regions and a separation region that separate the island regions from each other, on the surface of the ferromagnetic material layer by a self-organization phenomenon; and
removing the island regions selectively.

Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 6, wherein the making nonferromagnetic step forms magnetic recording regions corresponding to the island regions and a nonferromagnetic region corresponding to the separation region, and the separation region is removed after the making nonferromagnetic step.

Claim 8 (Original): The method of claim 7, wherein servo information for controlling at least one of a position and a speed is written in each of the magnetic recording regions, the position and the speed are relative to a magnetic head.

Claims 9-18 (Cancelled).